



Environmental Technical Advisory
Committee Regular Meeting Thursday
November 16, 2023, 3:00 PM
Chamber Conference Room, City Hall
280 Madison Ave N
Bainbridge Island, WA

The Environmental Technical Advisory Committee will hold this meeting in person, in the City Hall Chamber Conference Room, 280 Madison Ave N, Bainbridge Island, WA

It is recommended that attendance be in person, but it is also accessible via the Zoom meeting platform.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://bainbridgewa.zoom.us/j/88963877904>

Webinar ID: 889 6387 7904

Or iPhone one-tap: US: +12532158782 Or Telephone: +1 253 215 8782 or +1 669 900 9128 or +1 346 248 7799

Agenda for November 16, 2023, ETAC Meeting

3:00 PM

Call to Order / Roll Call / Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Members: Melanie Keenan, Malcolm Gander, Dylan Frazer, Ben Harrison and Brian Harmon

Council Liaison: Jon Quitslund

COBI Staff: Patty Charnas - Director, Planning & Community Development; David Greetham – Interim Planning Manager; Renee Argetsinger - PCD Administrative Specialist

Approval of Agenda – November 16, 2023

Approval of Minutes – October 19, 2023 (10 min)

Council Liaison Report – Jon Quitslund (10 min)

Chair Report – Melanie Keenan (10 min)

COBI Staff Comments (10 min)

1. Discussion: GWMP (15 min)

2. Discussion: Comprehensive Plan Update (15 min)

3. Discussion: Winslow Subarea Plan Update (10 min)

4. Discussion: Update Shoreline Management Program Schedule & References (5 min)

5. Discussion: Update ETAC COBI Webpage to reflect the work ETAC is doing (5 min)

6. Discussion: 2024 Workplan (5 min)

Public Comment (5 min)

Adjournment: 4:40 PM



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**Environmental Technical Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 19, 2023
City Hall Chamber Conference Room**

Call to Order (Attendance, Agenda, Ethics)
Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 17 and September 21, 2023
Council Liaison Report
Chair Report
Discussion of update on GWMP
Discussion of historical aerial photos of recharge areas
Discussion of COBI workshop participation/Comprehensive Plan
Discussion of ways to attract new ETAC members
Other topics of interest
Call for Public Comment
Adjournment

Members Present:

Melanie Keenan, Malcolm Gander, Ben Harrison

Members Absent: Brian Harmon, Dylan Frazer, (4 vacant positions)

COBI Staff and City Council Present:

David Greetham (Interim Planning Manager), Jon Quitslund (Council Liaison), Daria Hansen (Public Records Analyst)

Meeting called to order at: 3:05 p.m. No conflicts of interest were disclosed.

Approval of October 19, 2023, Agenda: Melanie will add comments about scoping and ETAC goals into the discussions. The agenda was approved with no formal vote taken.

Review & Approve Minutes: August 17 and September 2, 2023

Minutes approval delayed until the November meeting.

Council Liaison Report (Jon Quitslund):

The ad-hoc committee that is reviewing all commission and committee processes will be presenting its recommendations to the Council soon. One topic that arose is keeping committee membership to between 5-7 people. Additionally, it will be recommended that Council review all committee workplans the first quarter of the year to maintain productivity.

Council will be discussing the Comprehensive workplan at Tuesday's meeting. Discussion followed.



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Chair Report: Melanie Keenan led the discussion on agenda topics.

Update on Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP)-

Melanie updated the commissioners on the GWMP subcommittee meeting and Brent Meyer's presentation. She presented an overview of concerns observed during the peer review of the latest consultant update, such as well monitoring, developing a failsafe method to identify impacts from pumping too much in one well area on deep and shallow aquifers. Discussion followed.

Discussion of Documented Seawater Intrusion Occurrences-

Melanie discussed early warning levels, seawater intrusion and well draw-down in the Seabold area. Malcolm shared how Aspect did a report in 2006 on seawater intrusion in this area. There are historical areas that need to be assessed before additional well drilling is done, in order to save people time and money. Discussion followed on the difference between connate water and seawater intrusion, and how best to test the water to determine which situation is occurring.

Discussion followed on Dick Krutch's article in the Bainbridge Review and his experiences as a private well owner dealing with seawater incursion and the expenses and difficulties associated with multiple re-drillings. Commissioners discussed RO (reverse osmosis) water treatment systems and costs.

Historic Bainbridge Island aerial photos possibly available through committee members Harrison, and Keenan link to recharge areas-

Melanie shared how she is using Google Earth Pro to look at recharge areas on Bainbridge and stressed the need to address building and growth impacts on these areas along with the 20% projected loss due to climate change. Discussion followed on selecting 4 or 5 specific areas to present to the City and how best to address these issues via the Comprehensive Plan.

Discussion followed on groundwater and stormwater, working with KPUD in managing these, and the costs of upgrading the sewer treatment plant to re-use water vs. releasing it into Puget Sound, compared to using stormwater to recharge the aquifer.

COBI Workshop September 28-October 29 Online Public Feedback. ETAC input for Kick- Off meeting-

In preparation of ETAC's scoping plan to present to Council on October 29th, Melanie reviewed a 2014 scoping document that contained useful concepts for the upcoming Comprehensive Plan; utilizing environmental framing, resident, and stakeholder priorities, and using an economic and commerce perspective. There are opportunities for environmental concerns to be addressed in the Comprehensive



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Plan. Discussion followed on whether a special meeting should be held or whether a subcommittee should be formed. This is an opportunity for ETAC to present information for scoping on groundwater and stormwater management, as these are not currently included in the growth element.

Melanie emphasized the need to plan in generational terms vs. the current 20–40-year projections and explained how Bainbridge Island is the only sole-source aquifer island surrounded by salt water in the state of WA. Kitsap and Bainbridge are heavily reliant on rainfall and groundwater. Bainbridge does not have the ability to expand too much in population and water usage. How best to advance COBI towards collecting metrics on existing developments or pilot programs so a basis can be formed on growth impacts on water usage? Melanie stressed the importance of citizen involvement.

Discussion followed on growth estimate calculations, zoning and building regulations across a wider economic spectrum, and whether there are other cities that Bainbridge can follow as a template. Ben and Melanie will form a subcommittee to prepare a report by October 29th.

Discussion of queries to new potential ETAC members and COBI tools to aid ETAC in reaching out to the public-

There have been two Science Night talks so far. Malcolm and Melanie will present a talk in December, laying out the Island hydrology data in a “Hydrology 101” format. They may also attend meetings with Friends of Geology, which may lead to the recruitment of new ETAC members.

Other topics of interest –

Melanie will keep track of how the Climate Action Committee is progressing with the Comprehensive planning process. It’s important to assess where the Comprehensive Plan has gaps in goals and policies as they pertain to the current municipal code.

The commissioners spoke of the importance of having regular updates from Chris Wierzbicki and/or to have a combination UAC/ETAC meeting so all involved can stay relevant and up to date.

Call for Public Comment: No public comment.

Meeting adjourned at: 4:30 p.m.